Dr. Paris Avgeriou and Dr. David C. Shepherd Editor-in-Chief Journal of Systems and Software December 14, 2020

Dear Editors,

We are pleased to submit an original research article entitled "A Comparative Study of Software Development Practices in the Context of an Emerging Country" for consideration for publication in the Journal of Systems and Software.

In this manuscript, we have tried to identify the software development practices in the Bangladesh software engineering (SE) industry and the differences in practices among other emerging SE industries. We have found that SE practices regarding security and testing are given less priority in emerging SE industries. Our study creates a paradigm for future studies focusing on emerging SE industries and the creation of software tools to introduce best practices in those industries.

This manuscript has not been published elsewhere and that it has not been submitted simultaneously for publication elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Partha Chakraborty, BUET, Bangladesh Khalid Hasan, BUET, Bangladesh Dr. Rifat Shahriyar, Associate Professor, BUET, Bangladesh Dr. Anindya Iqbal, Associate Professor, BUET, Bangladesh Dr. Gias Uddin, Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, Canada